

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for metal or metal alloy solder particle, does not reasonably provide enablement for all solder particles. The Examiner states the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to practice the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

The Examiner states that claims 1-28 recite that the thermal interface material comprises fusible solder particles. The Examiner states that, by definition, solder particles are any particles that "melt to unite" and hence include polymer particles as well. The Examiner states that the present invention is directed to the use of metal or metal alloy solder particles and hence the claims should correctly recite metal or metal alloy particles.

The Examiner has referred to claims 1, 25 and 28, which are the only independent claims that are pending. All three independent claims now include the limitation that the solder particles are made of metal.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 2-4, 6-7, and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner states that claims 2, 3, 6-8, and 16-19 recite that the weight percentages of the matrix material, the solder particles, and the filler particles but do not state what the weight percentage is based on. The Examiner states that the claims should accurately recite that the weight percentages are based upon the thermal interface material.

Claims 2, 3, 6-8, and 16-19 have now been amended to include the term "of the thermal interface material." Applicant, accordingly, submits that these claims should overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner also stated that it is unclear, from both the Specification and the claims, what is meant by a low-viscosity vinyl. The Examiner further states that the term "olefin" should be correctly spelled as "olefin." Applicant has deleted the term "a low-viscosity vinyl" and has corrected the spelling of olefin.

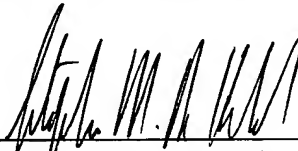
Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-4, 6-7, and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Stephen M. De Klerk at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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